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*** Forwarding note from RPAGES --VUSO212A 09/13/93 07:49 ***

To:	TLATTANZ--DSVPMUSA	Ted Lattanzio	GPATSKAN--VUSO212A George Patskan
	MLOGUE --VUSO212A	Mayada Logue	CPURCELL--VUSO212A Clare Purcell
	SPARRISH--VUSO212A	Steve Parrish	MPOTTORF--VUSO212A Mary Pottorff
cc:	MRITTER --VCHO021A	Mitch Ritter	RDEMPSEY--VCHO021A Ruth Dempsey
	RCARCHMA--VUSO212A	Richard Carchman	HREIF --VCHO021A Helmut Reif
	MWINOKUR--VUSO212A	Matthew Winokur	BVIOL --VCHO021A Wolf Reininghaus
	AANDRADE--VCHO021A	Tony Andrade	

From: Robert A. Pages
Subject: IARC

FYI.

Comment:
I trust that some of what Mitch reports vis a vis PMCS and wanting to "influence" the IARC study is overstated. As he correctly points out our ability to do so is next to nil and would likely be very counter-productive.

Our information about the status of the study, etc., is good, thanks to the efforts of many people especially Helmut Reif and INBIFO scientists. At worst, we can expect that the study will find a weak association between being married to a smoker and nonsmoker lung cancer, which may be in some analysis statistically significant. The key points, as usual, will be the care that is taken to rule out or minimize bias (e.g. misclassification of smoking status) and confounding (diet, etc.).

The US example with EPA should be an excellent and relevant model to learn from. If a "kangaroo court" mentality prevails with those involved in the IARC study such that they are bound and determined to have the study results interpreted to mean that ETS exposure "causes" lung cancer in nonsmokers there will not be much we can do about it except scream like hell. Given the information we have heard so far, there is reason to hope that the Europeans will not want to repeat the "excesses of the crazy Americans" by using "ends justifies means" methods a la EPA.

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It's in the latter area that we may a chance to provide some guidance to the IARC investigators. Some important sources of influence will include the transcript of the ETS session at the Toxicology Forum in July, especially the comments of Wynder who has good credibility with IARC. These should be publicly available shortly. I would at least recommend that they be made widely available for dissemination.

Despite reports to the contrary, the sky is not falling. Please let's have a bit of calm, reasoned, rational thinking about this before we do anything stupid.

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*** Forwarding note from MRITTER --VCH0021A 09.13.93 09:29 ***
To: RPAGES --VUS0212A Robert Pages

From: Mitchell Ritter
To: .
Subject: IARC
Dear Bob,
Sorry, but I forgot to put you on distribution.
Best regards,
Mitch
*** Forwarding note from MRITTER --VCH0021A 13.09.93 09:28 ***
To: RCARCHMA--VUS0212A Richard Carchman

From: Mitchell Ritter
To: .
Subject: IARC
Dear Richard,
I have just returned from the PMCS office in Brussels where there is frenetic activity regarding the IARC study on ETS. For some reason people like Bill Murray and Michael Miles are asking questions about the coming study, and have expressed grave concern. David Greenberg has set in motion some planning procedures to see what can be done to stop or influence the final publication. Acting on a general consensus here in Neuchâtel, and in concert with Tony Andrade, I did what I could to demonstrate to them that any efforts at interfering with IARC had little chance of success, and had a tremendous potential of even damaging our position. I think I was successful on this point.
In exploring together means of preparing a response, the question of joining with IARC to do a full-blown evaluation of risk - with the participation of industry scientists and consultants - came up. I provided David with the information I had, as well as taking Ruth's input.
The situation in the EC is precarious. The PMCS specialist on the EC felt that depending on the political situation in the community and the actual conclusions of the IARC study, the Commission could extend the competency for mandating ETS related exposure guidelines. This is obviuosly a political call, and beyond our competency to advise. However, given the importance of these considerations, I recommended to David Greenberg that he refer directly back to you.
Best regards,
Mitch

cc: HREIF --VCH0021A Helmut Reif AANDRADE--VCH0021A T.(Anthony)Andrade
RDEMPSEY--VCH0021A Ruth Dempsey

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